



**“I shall always be ready to remind you of these things...”**  
**2 Peter 1:21**



**CABOT WESTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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**When We Meet**

Sunday  
 Bible Classes – 9:00 am  
 Worship – 10:00 am, 5:00 pm  
Wednesday  
 Bible Classes – 7:00 pm

**Our Elders**

R.D. Hopper  
 Norman Kemper

**Our Deacons**

Troy Hunter  
 Kelly Kendall  
 Tony Ramick

**Our Preacher**

Alex Hale

**An Examination of Elijah’s Life, Part 1**  
 By Alex Hale

**The judgment of drought (1 Kings 16-18:18).** Because of the wickedness of Ahab and Jezebel, Elijah proclaimed to Ahab that there would be no dew nor rain for a period of time unless Elijah requested it. During this period, which lasted three years and six months (James 5:17), God took care of Elijah. The ravens fed him by the Brook Cherith. The widow of Zarephath gave him water and fed him. After a long period of drought, Elijah went back before Ahab. God had commanded Elijah to do this. Obadiah, a servant of Ahab who feared the Lord, arranged this meeting. At this meeting, Ahab falsely accused Elijah of being the “troubler of Israel.”

**The challenge on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18:19-46).** To prove that Ahab and his false religion were the real problems, Elijah challenged the false prophets to meet him on Mount Carmel. These prophets consisted of 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of Asherah. They were supported by Jezebel. Elijah’s challenge was simple – either follow God or follow Baal, but do not try to have it both ways. However, when they are asked to choose, the people did not say anything. In response, Elijah issued a challenge to the prophets. They failed, but Elijah was successful. The false prophets were then executed. Finally, the drought ended when Elijah prayed.

**What Can We Learn?**

**The power of prayer.** James makes this application in his epistle (James 5:15-18). We are encouraged to pray for one another. James states a fact and then backs it up with evidence. The fact is that the prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much good. The evidence is a case study of Elijah.

Do we believe in the power of prayer? We are told that God is the One who hears prayer (Psalm 65:2). Jesus taught of the power of praying in faith (Mark 11:24). John explained how powerful prayer was if it was according to God’s will (1 John 5:14-15).

**The providence of God.** God repeatedly provided for Elijah’s needs. The ravens brought him food by the Brook Cherith. The widow of Zarephath fed him and gave him water. Later, an angel brought him bread and water when he was fleeing from Jezebel.

Do we believe in the providential care of God? Scripture teaches that those who seek God will have their needs met (Matthew 6:31-34; Psalm 37:25) and that those who sacrifice for the kingdom will be rewarded (Mark 10:29-30).

**The need for commitment.** Elijah was committed to the Lord. He was willing to stand for the Lord in the face of great adversaries. He stood before Ahab, arguably the most wicked king in the history of Israel. He stood before hundreds of false prophets of Mount Carmel. He stood before the people of Israel who worshipped false gods and compelled them to make a choice.

Are we willing to make a commitment to the Lord? In 1 Kings 18, the people were lukewarm toward God, unwilling to make a decision to worship Him only. We must understand that divided allegiance is just as wrong as open idolatry. With God it is either/or; it cannot be both (Revelation 3:15-16; James 4:4-5).

*[continued next week]*